Daily Report

Latin America

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Group of 8 Foreign Ministers Meeting Continues

Panama Opposition Request

PA2706215988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2000 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 27 Jun (EFE)—The Panamanian opposition has asked the foreign ministers of the Group of Eight (G-8) to analyze the possibility of promoting a negotiated solution in Panama through the establishment of a national dialogue.

Civic Crusade spokesman Aurelio Barria told EFE that the opposition has a "political willingness" to participate in a dialogue with his country's government.

Barria said that last weekend he handed to G-8 foreign ministers a letter in which the Panamanian opposition states it is unfair to allow a Panamanian Government representative to participate in the meeting while the Civic Crusade's views are not heard. [passage omitted]

Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter traveled to Mexico City to meet with his Group of 8 counterparts. He will ask for solidarity from Latin American governments "in view of a U.S. invasion threat," the diplomat said upon arriving in this capital.

According to the Civic Crusade spokesman, "democratic Latin American governments will most probably reject Panama's return to the Group of 8 until democracy is restored there." [passage omitted]

Meeting Ends

PA2706144388 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1304 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Report by Perla Xochilt Orozco]

[Excerpts] The Group of the Eight foreign ministers have ended their meeting in Oaxaca, during which they discussed and reached more solid and specific agreements to support Latin American integration and cooperation. The foreign ministers expressed their concern for the problems experienced by some area countries, especially the drug trafficking problem that endangers democracy and social justice. Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda believes that because of the agreements reached, this has been the best Group of Eight meeting.

During their 2-day meeting, the foreign ministers of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay, and Mexico discussed a more balanced, objective, and fair treatment of the drug trafficking problem and said that the United States has to play a very important role in solving this problem. The foreign ministers will also promote an international agreement against drug trafficking at the United Nations. Furthermore, the foreign ministers established the bases with which to confront economic problems, especially the foreign debt burdening Latin America.

At the meeting's conclusion, the Mexican delegation issued an overall report on the topics discussed during the meeting. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a July meeting of the Group of Eight culture ministers has been scheduled to be held in Uruguay. They will discuss cooperation in the field of culture and ways to protect our cultural heritage. [passage omitted]

Communique Issued

PA2806011688 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Communique issued by the Group of Eight foreign ministers in Oaxaca, Mexico, on 27 June]

[Text] This morning the foreign ministers of the Permanent Mechanism of Consultation and Permanent Coordination for Latin America disclosed the results of their fourth meeting, held in Oaxaca over the weekend. The communique issued by the Group of Eight reaffirms the political commitment of their governments to achieve the economic integration of the region. It announces that the second meeting of Latin American presidents will take place 27-29 October in Punta del Este, Uruguay. After reviewing the progress of the mechanism of coordination, which began at the Acapulco summit in October 1987, the foreign ministers of Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Brazil made the following statement:

1. The foreign debt problem must be solved within the framework of coresponsibility between debtors and creditors.

2. It is of concern that during their recent summit, the West's most industrialized countries did not present clear solutions to the Latin American foreign debt.

3. The industrialized world must urgently make specific commitments to correct its macroeconomic imbalances and trade distortions that limit the possibilities of sustained growth for the international economy.

4. The conflicts raging in Latin America must be solved through political dialogue and diplomatic negotiations.

5. There must be greater coordination in the struggle against drug trafficking. The efficiency of this struggle will be seen in tougher actions in the main markets of drug consumption.

6. There must be a promotion of new mechanisms to exchange information regarding national economic policies and technological and cultural exchange.

7. There must be greater rapprochement with the European Community and South East Asian nations.

Cuba

Nicaraguan President Ortega Continues Visit

Lays Wreath at Monument

FL2706233388 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] The arrival today in our country of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra is reported for this newscast by journalist Alexis Sotolongo.

The official talks between the delegations of Cuba and Nicaragua ended a few moments ago. The talks are part of the activities scheduled for the president of that brother country, Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

This afternoon, the Nicaraguan leader placed a flower wreath at the foot of the monument of the national hero Jose Marti in Revolution Square. Also present at the brief and solemn event were Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, and members of the Nicaraguan delegation.

This morning, the president of the Republic of Nicaragua arrived in our country at the invitation of our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The welcoming ceremony turned into a great expression of solidarity and friendship. The moment Ortega set foot on Cuban ground, Fidel welcomed him at the foot of the airplane steps and they both exchanged a strong embrace. At the airport and all around the avenues of (Bantroy), Boyeros, and (Linea Ferrocarril) the people of Havana, representing all the Cuban people, gave the Nicaraguan delegation a fraternal welcome.

This evening, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega will receive the National Order of Jose Marti in a solemn ceremony at the Palace of the Revolution.

Decorated by Castro

FL2806011988 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0042 GMT on 28 June carries live coverage of the ceremony to decorate Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega with the Jose Marti Order. At 0046 GMT Fidel Castro and Daniel Ortega are seen entering the room. After the two leaders go to opposite sides of the room, the honor guard enters and the national anthems of Cuba and Nicaragua are played.

PCC Politburo member Osmani Cienfuegos then delivers a speech, in which he says that though revolutionaries do not think of decorations, it is only fair to recognize the work of those who identify with the causes of their people. Cienfuegos notes the importance of Nicaragua's 19 July triumph and of Ortega's role from the early days of the movement against Somoza. He also speaks of the unprecedented aggression unleashed against Nicaragua by imperialism, whose policies are isolated and are now further away from achieving their purposes, thanks to the heroic efforts of the Sandinist leadership and the sacrifices of the Nicaraguan people. Nicaragua now, Cienfuegos stresses, is independent and nonaligned and will continue to defend its revolution and search for peace in Central America. As an expression of the inexhaustible appreciation and solidarity of revolutionaries, he says, Fidel Castro will pin the Jose Marti order on Ortega.

After Cienfuegos concludes his remarks, Castro presents the medal to Ortega, and the two leaders embrace.

Then Daniel Ortega, upon receiving the Jose Marti Order, delivers a speech.

Remarks on Bilateral Ties

FL2806151588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 0105 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Speech by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra upon receiving the Jose Marti Order from President Fidel Castro Ruz at the Palace of the Revolution in Havana—live]

[Text] Dear Comrade Fidel, dear comrades from the Cuban leadership, dear brother people of Cuba:

The deep, friendly relations between the peoples of Cuba and Nicaragua are well known. The solidarity shown by the Cuban people to the Nicaraguan people is well known. The example set by Mella, who fought for Sandino's cause, is not unusual. Cuba and Nicaragua, as living components of Latin America and the Caribbean, have been people confronting a common struggle for the independence, self-determination, and sovereignty of our nations. Marti, Dario, Sandino, Fidel, and Carlos have been heroes of the histories of Cuba, Nicaragua, and Latin America... [changes thought] oh, and Che. They have affirmed with their actions the struggles of the people of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our relations with Cuba are not new, strange, or secret. They emerged from the history of two peoples with common background, aspirations, and enemies. As such, they cannot have secret ties. Our ties have always been frank and open. We worked in concert with Fidel when we fought to overthrow Somoza for Nicaragua's independence, self-determination, democracy, freedom, and justice.

We have constantly worked together to achieve peace in Nicaragua. We have been working together in support of Latin American efforts such as Contadora, in support of the Central American efforts leading to the Esquipulas agreements, in support of the Sapoa peace process. We have been working for peace without denying the Nicaraguan people their independence and self-determination.

In this complex struggle, we have been the object of attacks by those who do not want to see their people united, free, and independent.

For imperialism, to have Cuba and Nicaragua fight for peace and independence is a crime. For imperialism, to have the Latin American peoples fight for self-determination and independence is a crime. For imperialism, to have the Latin American nations demand a peaceful solution to the conflicts in the region is a crime. We will continue committing crimes in the face of imperialism at the risk of facing the sanctions imperialism imposes on us, at the risk of facing blockades, embargos, and military aggression such as Cuba has endured and Nicaragua is enduring. We are definitely on the side of peace. By this, I mean the peace that we Nicaraguans have been defending with rifles in hand. We are also defending peace by opening room for negotiations. We have been extremely flexible.

Our commitment to peace is shared by Cuba, by the Latin American and Caribbean peoples, and by the international community. That commitment to peace runs counter to the current U.S. Administration's irrational, aggressive attitude. The U.S. Administration is bent on defending its terrorist policy against the Nicaraguan people. The U.S. Administration is bent on turning that which is illegitimate into something legitimate. The U.S. Administration is bent on denying our peoples the opportunity to think better on our own.

We are in Cuba today reaffirming our commitment to peace and our willingness to find a solution to the problem the United States has created against Nicaragua. The other side, the U.S. Government, has launched all sorts of campaigns to justify an armed escalation against Nicaragua. The United States has resorted to all sorts of pressures in Central America. It has sent weapons to the counterrevolutionary forces; it has infiltrated counterrevolutionary forces into Nicaraguan territory; and it has brought continuous bloodshed to our fatherland.

There are two attitudes. One is the attitude of the people of Marti, of Dario, and of Sandino, which defends peace and independence. The other is the attitude of the empire, which refuses to recognize the rights of other people—no matter how small—to enjoy peace, liberty, justice, and independence.

We receive the Jose Marti Order convinced that this is a recognition by the fraternal Cuban people of the fraternal Nicaraguan people. We receive this order on behalf of the Nicaraguan workers, peasants, and fighters. Upon our return to Nicaragua, we will pin this decoration on the chests of the heroic Nicaraguan mothers who have given up their children in this uneven clash against U.S. imperialism.

These are heroic, glorious mothers who set an example of moral conviction and Sandinist firmness. We receive this order also with the willingness and disposition to continue to defend the values that Jose Marti defended; that is, independence, self-determination, peace, and democracy. And I receive this order in the name of our Cuban brothers who set an example by carrying out various tasks in Nicaragua, surrendering their lives, and mixing their blood with that of heroes and martyrs.

Upon receiving this order, we want to reaffirm our willingness and decision to continue fighting for peace and to continue looking for a negotiated solution to the conflict the United States has imposed upon us, the Nicaraguans. We also reaffirm our decision to continue fighting and facing with strength the Yankee aggression, Nicaragua's economic and social problems created by this aggression, and the loss of thousands of Nicaraguan lives.

We will not fail even if the counterrevolutionaries, who are guided, directed, and financed by the U.S. Government, increase their criminal activities. We will not fail and will not sacrifice our democratic and revolutionary process even if Reagan orders more terrorist actions against our homeland. The Nicaraguan people will always stand firm. The Sandinist fighters, workers, peasants, youth, and women will always stand firm to face the Yankee aggression in all places and at all times.

We will not sacrifice this revolutionary process. We will not sacrifice our achievements. This is a firm decision the Nicaraguan people made on 19 July 1979. And today, upon receiving this Jose Marti Order, we tell Comrade Fidel and the brother people of Cuba that we are fighting in the same trench against a common enemy. The task is difficult, but the unity of our peoples multiplies our strength and our ability to resist and ensures victory. Good night. [applause]

Anti-Imperialist Meeting in Panama Praised

PA2506123988 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jun 88

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America held a 3-day meeting in Panama City in which 26 political and popular movements in the region reiterated their support for the isthmian cause and condemned U.S. attacks against that country.

The words with which General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, closed the last session were wise and just. He said Panama is waging a battle for Latin America's dignity. Certainly, the courage with which Panamanians have defended their integrity is an example for the entire region.

In that regard, Gen Noriega added that in Panama, the United States is conducting an experiment on how to strangle a nation's economy and harm its prestige and the prestige of its leaders in order to isolate the country and be able to dominate and subjugate it. Gen Noriega said this plan could be implemented in any country in the region.

Those concepts are more real taking into account the fact that the pressures exerted on Panama all this time are not similar to the ones exerted on other countries. Though in Panama's case there were no direct or spectacular invasions—such as in the case of Grenada, for example—this small nation has been subjected to the most brutal threats as well as political, military, and economic pressures.

Although a climate of tension prevails, it can be said that it is different than in the initial days. This is mainly a result of the firm resistance shown by the Panamanian Government and people.

International solidarity toward Panama is another aspect that must be taken into consideration, as it has been shown that the attacks are aimed at overthrowing a government and drowning a nation bravely struggling to defend its sovereignty. In that regard, it should be noted that part of that solidarity was evident at this assembly of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America, which also condemned all forms of foreign intervention in the region. In their speeches, the participants described U.S. interventionist policy against Latin American countries and the struggles waged by the people in the region to counter it.

In view of the fact Panama has been a sort of laboratory where the U.S. Government tested a special kind of policy, that nation should be seen as an example of what peoples can achieve with courage and determination to defend their national sovereignty.

It also became clear that the pressures were aimed at perpetuating U.S. presence in the Canal area, and from there, extending the attacks to other Latin American nations.

The courage demonstrated by the Panamanians and the support they received shows that subjugating people is not that easy.

Official Describes Visit to U.S. Nuclear Plant

FL2406180088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1240 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Interview with Javier Rosales, deputy secretary of the Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] A Cuban delegation recently visited U.S. nuclear installations for the first time. Heading the delegation was Javier Rosales Arias, deputy secretary of the Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs [name and title as heard], whom we are interviewing to learn some basic things about the visit. Mr Rosales, you had the opportunity to tour a nuclear power plant on your trip to the United States. We would like to know about your tour and about the characteristics of the region where the nuclear plant is located.

[Rosales] We made the visit at the invitation of the Duke Power Company. It was preceded by a brief stay in Atlanta, where the regional office of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is located. We had exchanges there with several commission officials and experts concerning aspects of nuclear safety of interest to the two countries. This region, which covers the southeastern United States, is the most important for Cuba, given its proximity. There are 20 nuclear power plants, 33 reactors in operation and 3 under construction, 4 research reactors, and 6 nuclear fuel production plants in the region. They also have nearly 1,000 utility companies that are licensed by the regulatory commission.

We visited the McGuire Plant, in Charlotte, North Carolina, which is similar to the one under construction in Juragua, Cuba. It is a plant with low pressure reactors but different power; basically, the reactors are 1,150 megawatts each. They began operating in 1981 and 1984, respectively. During our 2-day tour of the plant, we had the opportunity to see several laboratories and the plant's main facilities. One of the highlights of the tour was the training center for operators, where we had a practical demonstration of the worst accident that could be simulated.

[Reporter] Cuba is carrying out its nuclear program, the chief objective of which is the construction of the Juragua nuclear power plant. What did the American experts think of Cuba's nuclear program?

[Rosales] First of all, the American experts said and showed that they had very little information about Cuba's nuclear program. In the course of our talks, they were able to get a general idea of our program. They reacted positively when told of Cuba's attention to nuclear safety. They even said in public that if the attention and measures our delegation outlined for them were practiced according to what we told them, they were sure the construction and operation of the Cuban plant did not have to be a cause for concern for the United States. Neither should American plants such as the one we were shown be a cause for concern for Cuba because they were built and exploited under safe conditions.

Likewise, they expressed interest in having these exchanges in the future, inasmuch as neighboring countries, independently of political differences, need this systematic exchange. In addition, they said that the Cuban nuclear program, though still a young program, could teach new things to the American specialists.

[Reporter] What importance do you attach to this first visit by Cuban specialists to a U.S. nuclear power plant?

[Rosales] The importance lies fundamentally in the fact that it is the first official meeting between representatives of the United States and Cuba to start turning into fact what our commander in chief has said about the need to exchange information on a strictly reciprocal basis on the safety of nuclear plants, both the ones in the

United States close to Cuba and the ones under construction in our country. Besides, the interest shown by the American experts in meeting again in the future is significant. In this connection, they expressed interest in visiting Cuba and the Cuban side said that it was ready to invite them at the right time.

Minister of Communications Visits Afghanistan

For Afghan coverage of Minister of Communications Manuel Castillo Rebasa's visit to Afghanistan, including talks with Afghan Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq, see the Afghanistan section of the South Asia division of the 23 and 27 June Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT's.

Haiti

Namphy Says Country Not Ready for Elections

FL2706164688 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Eight days after the coup d'etat on the night of 19 June, many candidates who have spoken out are asking how long the current military government intends to remain in power and when elections will be held in Haiti. This is what many of the political leaders who have spoken out have asked. General Henri Namphy provides an answer in today's edition of LIBERATION newspaper.

Gen Namphy says the time has not yet come for elections in Haiti. The new Haitian president feels the time is not ripe for elections and that only the Army can bring democracy to Haiti.

This is what he said in an interview with the French newspaper LIBERATION, which is to appear today, Monday, one week after the coup d'etat against civilian president Leslie Manigat.

Mr Namphy continues: As far as I am concerned, the proof has been given. The time is not yet ripe for elections in Haiti.

The government must first be organized and foundations have to be established for the democracy that everyone is demanding but unable to prepare. This is what the general said, stressing that the country's primary need is not politics but rather education, development, and jobs.

Gen Namphy explains that following the fall of Jean-Claude Duvalier in 1986, they entrusted power to an elected civilian government, but that didn't work. The fault is not the Army's or the population's. The Manigat government tripped itself up. Only the Haitian Army can bring democracy to Haiti. Regarding human rights, only the Army as an institution can provide what the country expects.

Namphy continues: I am not afraid to say it. Gen Namphy is the champion of human rights, because he himself does not send people out into the streets to get them killed. On the contrary, I protect them, continues Namphy.

Gen Namphy holds President Manigat responsible for getting himself overthrown. He accuses Manigat of not respecting the Constitution of 1987 or the military regulations by opposing the transfer of Colonel Jean-Claude Paul. By opposing that order, President Manigat pushed the colonel to do what he did, which Gen Namphy termed an act of indiscipline.

We did everything we could to avoid a confrontation with the president, but we could not allow him to destabilize the Army. The goal of the Paul affair and the business of sending me into retirement was to destabilize the Army, said the general.

Namphy continues: President Manigat did not want to work with the administration in place. He tried to immediately impose another concept of public administration.

This is an excerpt of a long interview Gen Namphy granted to LIBERATION, which is to appear today.

Manigat on U.S. Role in Government's Weakness

FL2706183088 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Report by Miami correspondent Lucie Tondreau]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Mr Manigat's second day in Miami went like the first, except that he held a press conference over a Cuban-owned [as heard] radio station, WQBA. He said he had never considered killing General Namphy. He also said that the U.S. Government, by not giving him economic support, contributed to his government's weakness, which led to its fall last Sunday.

A journalist questioned Mr Manigat about Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, whom he was trying to protect against drug charges. Mr Manigat answered that the American ambassador to Haiti had told one of his supporters that the U.S. Government had no evidence against Col Paul on the drug business.

Mr Manigat also said that in the coming weeks, the Haitian people should rise up and hold demonstrations and strikes, to show they support him. [passage omitted]

Venezuelan Embassy Announces Cut in Aid

FL2706185988 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] According to our most recent information, the people who were imprisoned are still in prison, despite the promise of release this weekend reported by AFP.

Also, the Venezuelan Embassy in Port-au-Prince reports that the Venezuelan Government suspended certain types of aid to Haiti after the military coup. This includes 150 houses they were planning to build in Port-au-Prince, in the Delmas section, and in Les Cayes. This housing was to be for soldiers and a few civilians.

Venezuela will no longer provide the 7,000 barrels of oil for the month of July as was planned within the framework of cooperation between the two countries. Venezuela will also not provide 700,000 gallons of asphalt and it will not set up an oil refinery in Haiti.

Pro-Namphy Demonstration Held in Saint-Marc

FL2706212688 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] In Saint-Marc in the lower Artibonite, we have learned there was a big demonstration on 25 June in support of the country's new chief of state, General Henri Namphy. Our correspondent Rodrigue F. Sejour will give us further details:

[Begin Sejour recording] There were festivities in the streets of Saint-Marc. At around 1700, a local orchestra, the [name indistinct], and groups of people on foot went up one street and down another dragging behind them hundreds and hundreds of people. They were all dancing and singing slogans favorable to Gen Namphy. On placards could be read: "We want Gen Namphy for president", "Gen Namphy, you are adult, truly adult," and other such slogans.

Among this huge crowd could be seen a few Saint-Marc political figures. There were rumors circulating to the effect that the general was coming to visit Saint-Marc. This report was denied very late in the evening.

At around 2100, once the tour of the town had been made, the orchestra on the truck, the groups on foot, and the crowd went home.

That same day we learned of the promotion of certain members of the military district of the lower Artibonite.

First Sergeant Julien J. Jeannot has been promoted to adjutant.

Maxi Maxell has been promoted from staff sergeant to first sergeant.

Mr Pierre Desante has been promoted from sergeant ad honores to sergeant.

This is Rodrigue F. Sejour for RTNH, Saint-Marc. [end recording]

Authorities Organized Rally

FL2706222488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Correspondent's report]

[Excerpts] On 25 June, Saturday afternoon, everyone saw the town band take to the streets, playing. Many people were asking why and wondering what was going on.

When we went out to investigate, we saw that it was a demonstration in favor of General Namphy organized by the magistrate, the captain, and other Saint-Marc authorities. [passage omitted]

Many observers told us, and all could note, that the orchestra did not move the population at all, because everyone went about their business normally. The people participating in the demonstration were the Army, the Club Verite, which is what they call the group of thugs, and the section chiefs in the area, who had been sent for.

Some of the section chiefs had come into town with their own groups, rara groups, which also began playing, but when they saw that no one in town joined in, they stopped and carried their drums away on their heads to set them aside. [passage omitted]

De la Madrid Encourages 'Clean' Elections

PA2606014988 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Report by Rita Ganem—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpt] Twelve days before the federal elections, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid entrusted Manuel Bartlett, as government secretary and president of the Federal Electoral Commission, with the mission of maintaining strict supervision over the electoral process.

[De la Madrid] "I have instructed Bartlett to carry out my government's unyielding decision to strictly fulfill the law and make sure the electoral process reflects the Mexican people's will. In that way, all citizens will participate in clean, trustworthy elections."

That was the message delivered by President de la Madrid at the inauguration of the national meeting of electoral employees. The meeting was attended by leaders and representatives of political parties, delegates of the 32 local electoral commissions and district committees, and employees appointed to the voting stations.

According to the information given by Government Secretary Manuel Bartlett, over 2 million Mexicans will be in charge of carrying out the electoral process.

At the meeting, President de la Madrid encouraged the Mexican Congress, political parties, and the citizens appointed to the 55,000 voting stations throughout the country to contribute to a clean, legal, and peaceful electoral process so the federal elections are conducted in an impeccable manner.

President De la Madrid said: I invite all political parties and their representatives to zealously defend the vote.

[De la Madrid] "I encourage you to resort to all the procedures and resources established by our electoral law to improve Mexican democracy through this election." [passage omitted]

Cardenas on 'Certainty' of Electoral Fraud

PA2706174088 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 26 Jun 88 p 4

[Report by Scott Lind]

[Excerpts] On Saturday Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, center-left coalition presidential candidate, told more than 200,000 supporters packing the Zocalo that the July 6 presidential elections will confirm that they are the largest political force in Mexico.

Charging that electoral fraud will take place, "the democratic forces' immediate objective is to achieve respect for the vote and legality of the electoral process," Cardenas told the cheering, chanting crowd. [passage omitted]

Cardenas outlined what he said is a virtual "certainty" that electoral fraud will take place, urging the citizenry to be present when votes are recounted three days after the presidential, Senate, and federal deputy elections.

"Pressures on unions and ejidos have been used to take voter credentials away from important groups of the population so they do not vote—and thereby open space for illegal votes," he said.

"Between six and eight million names repeated on the national voter register are people who died or who do not live in the district they are registered in. Marked ballots are being introduced...," the presidential candidate charged.

On July 9-10, when the votes are to be recounted in the country's 300 districts, "we will convoke all the citizens, independently of their party affiliation, to keep watch. The popular force must be present," he said.

Cardenas said he objects to the Economic Solidarity Pact, which controls wages but not prices, peso devaluations, which "principally favored multinationals," and the selling of parastate enterprises.

"The economic projects are political more than technical projects, satisfying particular interests," including domestic and international speculative enterprises. Such go against Mexico's best interests, Cardenas said. [passage omitted]

Honduras

Government 'Spearhead' of U.S. Plans in Region

PA2806000888 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Jun 88 p 6

[Editorial: "The Failure of Esquipulas II"]

[Text] The Esquipulas II process to establish lasting peace and economic development in Central America has been interrupted. In fact, the agreement was definitely broken last week in Tegucigalpa when efforts were made to hold the Executive Commission's sixth meeting.

A press communique from the Honduran Government, which included statements by Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras, formally denounced the Esquipulas agreement. Saying the process "has failed temporarily," the communique blamed the Sandinist government because it has refused to withdraw charges against Honduras at the International Court of Justice [ICJ].

If one looks carefully, there is a paragraph in that press communique that pressures the ICJ to refuse to hear the Nicaraguan complaint. "In concluding (said Lopez Contreras), if the ICJ decides it is empowered to hear the Nicaragua-Honduras case, Esquipulas II might as well consider itself finished, because some of the topics discussed in that agreement will be taken to court."

According to this, the government blames the ICJ and Nicaragua for the failure of Esquipulas II. This takes things to unbelievable extremes and mocks the nation's interests and the wishes for peace of all the Central American peoples and the international community.

The Honduran Government is behaving in a truly shameful manner that offends the fatherland. To support the U.S.-financed "contras," it has not shirked from any action that violates the principles of international law, such as nonintervention in the affairs of others, peoples' right to self-determination, and nonaggression against another state.

It was precisely due to this behavior that Nicaragua filed suit at the ICJ, making use of the mechanisms for peacefully solving conflicts among states. The Honduran Government has used this fact to comply with the Reagan administration's plans to do away with Esquipulas II. The government has placed its support for the "contras" above the interests of Honduras. It has done so to the point that it does not worry about a guilty verdict at the ICJ, which will not only mar our people's prestige but will probably cost our country a large amount in compensation.

The decision to break the Esquipulas II agreement is not in any way the patriotic action that Foreign Minister Lopez Contreras and the Azcona administration are trying to make it appear to be. Everyone is aware of the true motives. The Honduran Government once again becomes the Reagan administration's spearhead of a plan that will allow the continuation of the war against Nicaragua.

It is already evident that steps are being taken to resurrect the Tegucigalpa group of Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, with Guatemala perhaps now more interested in joining this group. We imagine that U.S Secretary of State George Shultz has something similar up his sleeve with his forthcoming Central American visit. The aim is to continue the war; it is therefore necessary to create an appropriate backdrop by destroying Esquipulas II.

The orchestra is beginning to play. Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta is already saying that the Central American presidents should "again discuss" Esquipulas II in the meeting slated for 7 August to "prevent the Nicaraguan regime from consolidating its power." This is clearly a proposal to turn Esquipulas II into an alliance against Nicaragua similar to the one that existed until this agreement was signed.

The sore spot of Esquipulas II has always been on-site verification and control, something Honduras has violently opposed. The government has never hidden its opposition to this provision. The Azcona administration is unwilling to accept on-site verification because it would be proven that it is not complying with the agreement. As everyone knows, the contras are and have been in Honduran territory with official support, as U.S. Ambassador Kampelman and contra chief Adolfo Calero have publicly stated.

Now the Salvadoran foreign minister wants to change the concept of on-site verification. It would no longer be a military issue to be resolved with a cease-fire, but it would be necessary to create a commission of notables for the "political verification" that would include Central Americans and representatives from Canada, Spain, and the FRG.

It is evident that all of the excuses brought up last week in Tegucigalpa during the foreign ministers' meeting are part of a premeditated plan for removing the peace process from the Central Americans' hands and putting it once again in the U.S. Government's hands.

Nicaragua

Contra 'Excuses' for Rejecting Talks Scored

PA2806030688 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 26 Jun 88 p 5

[Excerpts] In a note that was reportedly drafted at the State Department, yesterday the Resistance Directorate flatly rejected a proposal to meet in late June to discuss a peaceful solution to the Nicaraguan conflict. In response to a letter from General Humberto Ortega, who demanded a new round of negotiations on 26-29 June, a

note signed by Roberto Ferrey that was read over a mercenary radio station uses several shallow excuses to avoid a serious commitment to seek peace.

Among other excuses, the contras, whose leadership is currently undergoing a deep division, point to "obstacles to an exchange of views with 14 opposition political parties" and to their feeling like "prisoners" at the Intercontinental Hotel.

These claims are groundless, because contra leaders made several visits during their last meeting in Managua. Even former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez was greeted as a "hero" by the LA PRENSA Board of Directors. The contras also contacted parties belonging to the Democratic Coordinating Board.

Another excuse is what they describe as "a campaign of insults" allegedly carried out by the revolutionary media during their last visit. What they actually saw was the reaction of grieving mothers whose kidnapped sons are being held by the contras.

There was also a natural rejection of former Col Enrique Bermudez as the individual responsible for thousands of crimes against Nicaraguans and as the leader of a war based on cutting the throats of peasants, burning cooperatives and schools, carrying out kidnappings, and maiming people. [passage omitted]

The contras' response also evades their commitment to release 66 kidnapped people—the government notes that thousands have been kidnapped—when they claim to have encountered obstacles to releasing them in Guatemala. [passage omitted]

The contras also state that if there is a new round of negotiations, it should take place in a neutral place outside Nicaragua. By doing so, they are violating the spirit of Sapoa, which specified Managua as site for new negotiations for a peace agreement.

In contrast to the reality in the battlefield, where more than 700 kidnappings, the destruction of electricity towers, and other offensive actions have been reported in Region 6 alone, the contras say "they will not break the suspension of offensive military operations."

Panama

Ritter on Group of 8 Exclusion; U.S. Stands

PA2706135788 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Interview with Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter by unidentified reporters at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City on 20 June—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ritter] ...decided that Panama would not participate in the cooperation mechanism until, as was originally stated, Panama's situation was clarified. A foreign ministers meeting will take place soon in preparation for the Montevideo meeting. The Mexican foreign affairs secretary sent the necessary invitations as host country. In reality, the Group of Eight foreign ministers are supposed to make a decision in that regard. This will be their first meeting since 25 February; therefore, they must decide. We cannot question the reasons behind their decision; the decision is theirs.

[Reporter] Have you received an explanation for having been excluded?

[Ritter] No, that exclusion came ... [changes thought] What I want to make clear is that the exclusion did not happen now but in February and remains in effect until their next meeting. There will be a meeting in Oaxaca, Mexico, in preparation for the ministers meeting... [corrects himself] excuse me, the presidential summit in Montevideo. They will have to make a decision then. I would like to make clear that this will be their first meeting since the Cartagena meeting to discuss cooperation mechanisms, a meeting in which Panama did not participate.

[Reporter] What will the Foreign Ministry's position be with regard to the U.S. Government's refusal to allow several Panamanian citizens to enter the United States?

[Ritter] Each nation is free to determine the number of people it will allow into its territory. Now, if the U.S. decision is meant to exclude Panamanians just because they are linked to the Panamanian Government, perhaps this will be the first time in history that such an immature and absurd retaliation measure is used to punish—and the word punish should go between quotation marks—Panamanians by not allowing them to enter the United States.

[Reporter] The United States is continuing its campaign against Panama. A recent dispatch—on Friday—from the United States continues to mention a Cuban presence in Panama. That could be used as an excuse for U.S. military intervention in Panama. What does the Foreign Ministry have to say about that?

[Ritter] The United States has approached the Panamanian problem from all angles. As one fallacy after another fails, new ones are invented. Initially, in June of last year, it was said that the problem was the lack of democracy and that economic aid would be suspended until a provisional junta was formed and until President Delvalle and General Noriega were removed from their posts. Then, in February, the nature of the accusations changed: The problem then became drug trafficking and the president, who was supposed to have been removed, became Panama's constitutional president.

After that, the problem was human rights violations, and now it is what in the United States is beginning to be known as the Cubanization of the Panamanian problem. Drug trafficking, democracy, and human rights are no

longer the issues. The problem now is that Cuba and Nicaragua have excessive influence in Panama. We will have to wait and see what their next accusation will be.

Anti-Imperialist Communique Backs Panama

PA2706173688 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 27 Jun 88 pp A-20, B-5

[Resolution issued "at the closing" of the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City on 26 June]

[Text] The third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America:

1. Recognizing the profound geographical, historical, and cultural ties uniting the Caribbean and Central American peoples with the people of Panama;

2. Conscious of the Reagan administration's political maneuverings, economic aggression, and military threats to trample upon Panama's national integrity, sovereignty, and self-determination, and particularly to disown the Panama Canal treaties;

3. Realizing that current U.S. efforts to disown, isolate, and undermine Panama's lawful constitutional government and to punish the Panama Defense Forces and the Panamanian people because of their resistance involve dangerous implications for the other independent and patriotic Caribbean and Central American Governments.

Resolves:

1. To expose the Reagan administration's destabilizing and aggressive campaign against the Panamanian people and constitutional government designed to destroy that country's peacemaking efforts in Central America and to install in Panama a docile, capitulating, and repressive government that will agree to keep foreign military bases permanently within its territory.

2. To warn that U.S. meddling in Panama is a dangerous precedent for all nations in the hemisphere and a dangerous testing ground for new destabilization, intervention, and control methods for future use in subjugating the remaining nations in the region.

3. To call for solidarity from the Caribbean and Central American peoples in rejecting U.S. intervention in Panama and to express solidarity with the Panamanian people's and government's resistance in order to defend with them the sovereignty, independence, and right to self-determination of all Latin American and Caribbean nations.

PRD Public Workers Call for Economic Brigades

PA2706175088 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 27 Jun 88 pp A-1, B-5

[Text] We cannot continue to work in a bureaucracy with the same criteria, norms, mechanisms, and traditional structures. We must produce creative and nontraditional forms in keeping with the national liberation process, a communique issued by the Public Employees Front of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) stated.

Aware of its role at this historic time in our nation's history, the Public Employees Front announced the contributions it has made in the search for a solution to the current crisis confronting us all.

Reaffirming national independence, the Public Employees Front participated in the following: dignity brigades, measures to improve the administration and to reduce public expenses, diplomatic actions within the international community, and other measures that have somewhat restricted the aggressive powers of imperialism and its subservients.

The PRD Public Employees Front pointed out that economic measures aggressively imposed by the United States not only continue but are assuming new forms. Many unscrupulous businessmen are availing themselves of the crisis to reduce their overall payroll, to change work schedules, to send employees home on leave without pay, and to use other mechanisms that entail a rise in unemployment and an increase in the people's discontent, which will eventually lead to a social explosion and unforeseen consequences.

"We, the people in alliance with the Panama Defense Forces, are creating nationalist solutions to end the current crisis" the communique noted.

The Public Employees Front, led by Dr Benjamin Colamarco, believes that the people must be better informed about the causes of the current crisis. We must point out the main culprits: imperialism and its domestic allies, the treacherous subservient ones. At the same time, we must intensify our support for Manuel Solis Palma, the minister in charge of the Presidency, and for General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The Public Employees Front advises that the U.S. aggression is acquiring new characteristics in our country. "A war of economic aggression has actually been declared, and, therefore, we are in a state of economic war. In view of this situation, we must form brigades for the economic defense of the nation and the people—similar to the people's brigades for military defense—coordinated by a state organization and operated by a general staff for the defense of our national economy," the PRD Public Employees Front emphasized.

Argentina

Escalation Around Falklands 'Unlikely'

PY2706161088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0828 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Jun (TELAM)—Sea fleet Commander Rear Admiral Emilio Jose Osses has said that so far, there have been no incidents with British ships in the "exclusion zone" unilaterally imposed by Great Britain around the Malvinas Islands, adding that a military escalation in the region is very unlikely.

He admitted that ships of the two countries have approached one another in the area of the conflict, but he explained that navies around the world have reached a level of a coexistence in some "hot" spots, where ships of opposing sides, which are likely to engage in a military incident, avoid confrontation, in compliance with the current law of the sea and foreign policy guidelines.

n a conversation with the morning newspaper LA PRENSA, Osses stressed that now, we can say that the ships of the two countries respect each other, which has prevented critical situations. He admitted, however, that the possibility of a crisis in the South Atlantic cannot be ruled out, because ships of the two countries come very close to each other.

Osses said the Argentine people should be aware that the Argentine fleet is very modern. He added: I would say it is the most advanced generation with a high professional level. He noted that even though there are now fewer Navy ships than in the past, the Navy has a high-level, modern combat capacity.

Caputo Says G-8 'Satisfied' With G-7 Position

PY2706211788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1655 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Jun (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has reported that member countries of the Group of Eight, which gathered last weekend in Mexico, were satisfied with the position adopted by the Group of Seven industrialized countries, a position that in some ways they had supported for many years.

The chiefs of state of the seven industrialized countries who met last week in Toronto, Canada, recognized in their conclusions that the problem of external indebtedness is linked to the problem of political stability in the developing countries.

In a statement over Radio El Mundo, Caputo revealed that Argentina will be responsible for preparing the draft of the document to be presented at the second Latin American presidential conference to be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, next October.

In the opinion of our countries, Caputo said, the document must address those problems that need to be resolved so the development of our countries can proceed more smoothly, problems such as the foreign debt, international trade, and relations with international credit institutions.

Caputo said in Oxaca, Mexico, where he participated in the Group of Eight meeting that the document will review the advances made since the last Latin American presidential meeting in Acapulco last November, and it will delve into economic issues affecting our region.

Noting that the eight countries are very concerned about economic affairs, since the entire region has not raised it per capita income in the past 10 years, Caputo said this is the issue on which the group must concentrate.

Since our priority lies in the economic area, and taking into account the position the developed countries have taken, we believe our efforts must be concentrated on the preparation of the document for the next Latin American presidential meeting in Punta del Este.

The final document to be issued at the end of the Group of Eight meeting will make no mention of the situation in Panama, a country that was separated from the Group of Eight after developments that took place last February, when President Eric Delvalle was ousted. The decision to separate Panama from the group was adopted on the grounds that democratic conditions no longer prevail in that country.

In that regard, Caputo said that critical areas in the region were the subjects of conversation and exchanges of opinion, but no specific mention was made of Panama or a change of mind concerning that country.

Interpol Antidrug Conference Begins

PY2706192588 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpt] President Raul Alfonsin opened this morning the second conference of chiefs of national drug control departments with a speech in which he said: I want consumers to be punished as criminals. The president was the main speaker at the conference, which is being held at the San Martin cultural center of the federal capital and is being sponsored by the Interpol international criminal police office. The objective of the conference is to coordinate and improve antidrug action in the region. [passage omitted]

Ultrarightist Explosives Cache Found

PY2706180988 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] A resident of Villa Carlos Paz, Puniya Department, yesterday found 30 ammonium gelignite sticks, 8 meters of safety fuse, and 2 detonators, presumably belonging to the ultrarightist gangs that have recently been broken up in Cordoba. The material was found while the resident was clearing weeds on an estate near La Cruz Hill. The discovery was reported to the third regional police unit, which is investigating the case. In the past few days two ultrarightist cells were dismantled and some explosives were discovered, apparently abandoned by individuals who feared being reported by arrested gang members.

Briefs

Socialist Parties Unite

The Authentic Socialist Party [PSA] and the Argentine Socialist Confederation [CSA] have united to form one party. PSA Secretary General Enrique Inda and CSA Secretary General Oscar Palmeiro have signed the Declaration of Rosario to seal the union. [Summary] [*PY2706124788 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 26 Jun 88 p 4*]

Bolivia

UMOPAR, Peasants Clash; 6 Deaths Reported

PY2806032588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] According to a report by Panamericana correspondent Oscar Ordonez, the attack on the UMOPAR camp at Tunari Village, Cochabamba, caused several deaths and left many injured.

The report indicates that the attempt of UMOPAR Colonel Jose Luis Miranda to seek rapprochement with peasant leaders was short-lived because the peasants decided not to leave the camp and requested the immediate and complete withdrawal from the region of the DEA members in view of the latter's repeated abuses.

Julio Rocha, executive secretary of the Special Tropical Federation [Federacion Especial del Tropico], told Panamericana there was no attempt to disarm the UMOPAR personnel, but only a request that they lay down their arms to prevent further difficulties.

[Begin reporter recording] In a short interview with Panamericana, UMOPAR Col Miranda said the peasants must remain calm and avoid disturbances and especially not attack the camp because the armed UMOPAR personnel will not resist [as heard] them. This is what the colonel told the campesinos when he was seeking rapprochement. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

It was later confirmed from Tunari Village that DIRECO [Coca RegionaL Directorate] personnel did not take part in the armed incident.

Regarding the list of dead and injured people, reporter Ordonez said:

[Begin Ordonez recording] This is a summary of the injured and dead that was reported to Panamericana:

Armando Soria, 27; Dino Marrocha, 19; Clemencio Bravo, 17; Rene Ari de la Cruz, 28; and Freddy Tapia and Milton Alanes, students of the aforementioned school, received bullet wounds. Felicia Mendoza de Peredo and Eusebio Torres Bambone were shot dead. Mario Sipe and Tiburcia (?were wounded in the neck), while two other people who were thrown from the bridge into the river were not identified. This regrettable incident reportedly caused six deaths. [end recording]

Chile

Air Force Commander Praises Pillan Aircraft

PY2706152788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Report by Rene Sigley from Punta Arenas]

[Text] Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei, who is attending the 41st assembly of the Chilean Air Federation [Federacion Aerea de Chile] in Punta Arenas, has stated that the Pillan is an excellent aircraft and that it is gaining prestige in international markets. He disclosed that right now the Pillan aircraft is being exhibited in Turkey and other Middle East countries and that many of them have voiced interest in purchasing it.

Matthei noted that the 100th Pillan aircraft is now being assembled. He said the plane is gaining prestige due to its power, extraordinary performance, and low cost—about half the price of similar aircraft.

[Begin Matthei recording] The Pillan is an outstanding aircraft. Honestly speaking, there is no better training plane in the world. There is no aircraft similar to the Pillan for the same cost. The most similar aircraft, which is by no means better, costs twice as much. [end recording]

Gen Matthei confirmed that, although ENAER [National Aeronautics Enterprise] is not very well known and Chile still has not made a name for itself in this field, the Pillan is gaining international prestige due to its exceptional performance.

Christian Democratic Youth Accept PCCh Support

PY2706184288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The Christian Democratic Youth Party [JDC] has agreed to allow the Communist Party youth to join the Youth Movement for the No Vote. All that remains is to discuss the strategy to follow.

This information was disclosed by Felipe Sandoval, president of the JDC, who said that all Chileans, regardless of their political or ideological leanings, are involved in the campaign for the no vote.

Sandoval admitted that there are still some subjects to be clarified, but we will raise these issues before the Movement of the Communist Youth should it become necessary.

When asked what in particular he would like clarify with the Communist Youth, Sandoval said that in addition to the interpretation of the meaning of the no vote, they needed to discuss the Communist Party's overall strategy. [passege omitted]

Former Radical Party Leader Returns From Exile

PY2706191888 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 24 Jun 88 p C-4

[Text] Yesterday Benjamin Teplisky, a former Radical Party [PR] Executive Board member, returned from exile after being ouside the country for 14 years.

The PR politician returned from Rome via Alitalia. He had been in Rome for 14 years.

Teplisky was authorized to return to Chile when he was included on one of the lists recently released by the Interior Ministry.

Teplisky was met at the Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport by PR leaders, headed by PR President Enrique Silva and PR Secretary General Ricardo Navarrete.

FPMR Threatens Military Prosecutors

PY2706192588 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 24 Jun 88 p C-9

[By reporter Gonzalo Cruzat Bizama]

[Text] Valparaiso—The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has issued a communique threatening Valparaiso Naval Prosecutor Corvette Captain Miguel Angel Munoz. In the communique, the FPMR reiterated that ad hoc Military Prosecutor Fernando Torres Silva "has forgotten that his sentence is pending."

The communique, addressed to "the popular combatants and comrades" through "the mass media of the reactionary bourgeisie," refers to proceedings being conducted by prosecutor Torres Silva in the Valparaiso area, and it reiterates that his sentence is pending. The FPMR admits that it has been demoralized over "fallen combatants," but claims that it has already recovered.

FPMR Claims Retired Army Officer's Murder

PY2806010788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez terrorist front [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, FPMR], the armed branch of the outlawed Communist Party, has publicly acknowledged its responsibility in the murder of Army Lieutenant Colonel Miguel Rojas Lobos, retired.

Rojas Lobos was the financial manager of Plansa, a plastic manufacturing company. He was shot to death on 7 June outside the Plansa factory on Valdovinos Street.

In a press communique, the Manuel Rodriguez terrorist front stated that the murder was perpetrated by the 0025 attack unit led by a man known as Commander Claudio.

ANALISIS Journalist Paulsen Free on Bail

PY2706200888 Santiago FORTIN MAPOCHO in Spanish 24 Jun 88 p 24

[Text] Yesterday Fernando Paulsen, a journalist for the magazine ANALISIS, was released on a bail of 30,000pesos. The ruling must still be approved by the Supreme Court.

The journalist had been under arrest since late May for allegedly offending the Navy.

The IAPA has asked the Chilean military regime to free all Chilean journalists indicted for doing their jobs. The IAPA petition also includes Ivan Badilla, another journalist working for the magazine ANALISIS.

Paper Says 3 Jailed on False Evidence

PY2706223988 Santiago FORTIN MAPOCHO in Spanish 21 Jun 88 p 12

[Excerpt] Based on testimony by 13 CNI [National Intelligence Center] agents—9 of whom testified under false identities and 4 of whom used the names of people who live outside of Santiago—Santiago Military Judge Major General Jaime Gonzalez Vergara has sentenced Juan Sepulveda Meza, Eliana Pozo Marchant, and Juan Gutierrez to 3 years in jail. These three people, whose sentences cannot be suspended, were charged with illegal possession of explosives that were found at the Colegio Montessori.

In 1984, when the explosives were allegedly found, it was made public that the "three accused had never hidden weapons at the school. The weapons were placed there by the agents who raided the school."

The military court indicted school Principal Juan Gutierrez, who is secretary general of the Historical Socialist Party (PSH), and teachers Juan Sepulveda and Eliana Pozo, who are also PSH members, despite the fact that experts' reports stated that the floor under which the weapons had supposedly been hidden "had not been touched for the last 10 years." [passage omitted]

Colombia

M-19 Sends Invitation for Gomez Talks in Panama

PA2706160888 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1503 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 27 Jun (DPA)—Today it was confirmed in Bogota that the M-19 has invited Colombian Interior Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo to a meeting in Panama City to discuss the possibility of releasing Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, the kidnapped former presidential candidate.

The M-19's proposal was presented to the government through Colombian reporter Antonio Caballero, currently in exile in Spain. Caballero met with Antonio Navarro Wolff, a leader of the rebel organization, and was later sent to Panama City to prepare the meeting. [passage omitted]

Caballero, who currently works for the "Cambio 16" magazine in Spain, has confirmed that he spoke on the telephone with Minister Gaviria Trujillo; however, the government has apparently not responded to the invitation made by M-19.

Panama City, San Jose, and Mexico City were studied as possible sites for the meeting; however, the M-19 decided on Panama City because greater guarantees were offered.

It seems that the rebels have already asked the Panamanian authorities to act as hosts, not mediators, of the negotiations. [passage omitted]

Government Asks for Demands

PA2806011288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0021 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 27 Jun (EFE)—Today the Colombian Government demanded that M-19 speak with a "single voice" if the government is to agree to study "under various scenarios" the demands the guerrillas have made for the release of former presidential candidate Alvaro Gomez Hurtado.

The government's position, after 9 hours of talks between Colombian President Virgilio Barco and Government Minister Cesar Gaviria, means that Gaviria will not travel yet to Panama or Mexico in response to an invitation by the M-19 made Sunday and disclosed today.

Gaviria read a statement adding that the government is not in a position to announce the steps it may take regarding Gomez' kidnapping. Gaviria said the government needs to "know what the (guerrillas') demands" are. "We are not in a position to say whether we will meet their demands if we do not know what their demands are," Gaviria asserted. [passage omitted]

M-19 so far has said only that Gomez "is not negotiable" and that his life and freedom depend on whether the Colombian Government takes specific steps for a "broad dialogue" between the country's social and political groups.

Paraguay

Police Arrest PLRA Leaders at Party Meeting

PY2706144388 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 27 Jun 88 p 13

[Text] Yesterday Julio Cesar Franco, Angel Boccia, Federico Franco, and Severiano Gonzalez, leaders of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), were arrested by police during a meeting of the PLRA's committee in Fernando de la Mora. The meeting was being held at a private house.

PLRA member Luis Wagner reported that "members of the local police precinct interrupted the meeting, and although we told them that the meeting was legal, that there is no state of siege in force in our country, and that the Constitution and the national laws protect any peaceful meeting, they did not listen to us. After exchanging some words they arrested the aforementioned people."

Afterwards, the people attending the meeting went to another site, where they were again interrupted by the police.

Briefs

Minister Departs for Taiwan

Yesterday Dr Adan Godoy Jimenez, first vice president of the Colorado Party Executive Board and public health and social welfare minister, left for Taiwan at the invitation of the Taiwan Government. He will also visit the ROK and Japan. [Summary] [*PY2106034388 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 19 Jun 88 p 14*]

Peru

3 Subversives Kill United Left Mayor

PY2706204888 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Report from Puno Department]

[Text] Three subversives have murdered (Irisberto Jaime) [words indistinct], who was United Left mayor of San Juan de Salinas.

The cowardly murder occurred on the (?village's) main street at 1300 yesterday. According to eyewitnesses, two men and a woman took part in the murder. The woman shot the mayor twice.

After the murder, the three individuals escaped toward [name indistinct]. The police have already captured the man who drove the car used in the attack.

Suriname

Government, Rebels To Talk in French Guiana

FL2706133188 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] In French Guiana, negotiations are to start today between the Surinamese Government and the jungle command of rebel leader Ronnie Brunswijk. The peace talks will be attended by a bishop from Paramaribo and other church leaders. Negotiations will meet in a town which lies just beyond the border between French Guiana and Suriname.

French authorities say they will have nothing to do with the talks but they will guarantee the safety of the Surinamese Government delegation.

Negotiations Begin

FL2706204688 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] The peace talks between the Suriname Government and representatives of the Brunswijk gang have started in the neighboring French Guiana today.

An agenda for these discussions has not been drawn. Both parties have agreed to start the discussions without preconditions. The Suriname Government delegation is headed by the director of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, [name indistinct]. The composition of the Brunswijk delegation has not been made known. It is also not known how long the discussions will last.